(b) whether it is a fact that such important produce and products are much cheaper than the domestic agricultural produce and products; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to protect the farmers and domestic manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Under the Bangkok Agreement which is a Preferential Trading Arrangement, India extends tariff concessions to Bangladesh, China, Republic of Korea and Sri Lanka on the following agricultural products:

HSCode	Description	Rate of preferential import duty
0801.11	Desiccated-Coconut	30%
0907.00	Cloves (whole fruit, cloves and stems)	20%
0908.10	Nutmeg	25%
0908.20	Mace	25%
1513.19	Coconut (Copra) oil (refined)	55%
1520.00	Glycerol crude, glycerol waters and glycerol lyes	10%
1703.10	Cane molasses	10%
1703.90	Others	10%
1801.00	Cocoa beans, whole or broken, raw or roasted.	20%

As per the inforamtion available, none of the above items have been reported to be imported in huge quantities so as to cause adverse impact to the domestic manufacturers due to preferences under the Bangkok Agreement

(b) and (c) Do not arise,

Industrial development of Manipur

328. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes formulated by Government for the industrial development of Manipur during the last five years;

(b) whether adequate resources were earmarked for the development work in the State and if so, the details thereof, year wise;

(c) the reasons for the development work not gaining momentum in the State; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (d) North East Industrial Policy (NEIP) was announced by the Government on 24.12.1997 for promoting industrialization in the North-Eastern region which includes the State of Manipur. Under this policy, various concessions have been allowed to industrial units in the North-Eastern region, which include development of industrial infrastrucutre, excise and income-tax exemption and Subsidy Schemes like Central Capital Investment Subsidy, Central Interest Subsidy \ and Central Comprehensive Insurance Scheme.

As envisaged under the NEIP, a financial institution namely, North-Eastern Development Finance Corporation (NEDFi) has been established as a Special Purpose Vehicle for industrial development of the North-Eastern region. NEDFi has launched various schemes for providing financial assistance for setting up industrial units in the region. Some of these schemes are Project Finance Scheme, North-East Equity Fund Scheme, Micro Finance Scheme, Scheme for North-East Handloom & Handicrafts, Women Entrepreneurs Development Scheme and Jute Enterprise Development Scheme.

NEDFi has an open budget based on the proposals received. NEDFi has so far sanctioned Rs. 10.06 crores and disbursed Rs. 8.58 crores in the State of Manipur for setting up new industrial units in various sectors like healthcare, construction material, food processing, Agri-horticulture, IT, handloom and handicrafts, etc. Year-wise sanctions and disbursements to Manipur are as under

(Rs. in lacs)

Year	No. of Units	Sanction	Disbursement
1	2	3	4
1997-98	2	66	39
1998-99	4	49	31

1	2	3	4
1999-2000	12	263	153
2000-01	20	350	285
2001-02	7	80	152
2002-03	8	76	70
2003-04	8	76	70
2004-05 (upto 30.11.2004)	9	63	60
TOTAL	71	1006	858

To accelerate the process of industrialization in Manipur, steps have been taken to provide credit to industries in thrust areas such as food processing, bamboo industries, medicinal and aromatic industries, etc. Skill upgradation programmes for entrepreneurs have been organized. A Growth Centre has also been allotted to the State of Manipur.

Electronics Hardware Technology Park

329. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether para 6.17 of Chapter 6 of EXIM Policy 2002-2007 permits private companies under Electronics Hardware Technology Park (EHTP) to carry out reconditioning, repair, remaking, testing, calibration, quality improvement, upgradation of technology and re-engineering activities for export,

(b) whether in Notification No. 52/03 dated 31.03.2003 customs, the words repairing and re-furnishing have not been mentioned, consequantly companies wanting to export equipments after repairing and refurnishing cannot be issued licence under Section 58 of the Customs Act, 1962; and

(c) if so, whether the Ministry of Finance has been requested to suitably revise the Notification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Although, repair and re-engineering units are not allowed to import goods under Notification No. 52/2003-Cus. dated 31.3.2003, repairing